

REMARKS

Claims 1, 10, 12, 14 and 16 are amended herein. Claims 1-17 are pending in the application.

Claim 1 Objection

Claim 1 was objected to as allegedly containing informalities.

The claim have been reviewed and is amended where appropriate. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

35 USC 112 Second Paragraph Rejection of Claims 12 and 16

The Office Action rejected claims 12 and 16 as allegedly being indefinite under 35 USC 112.

The claims have been reviewed and are amended where appropriate. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in full conformance with 35 USC 112. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-17 over Copperi

In the Office Action, claims 1-12 and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Copperi et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,049,917 ("Copperi"), with claims 13 and 17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Copperi. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-9 recite, *inter alia*, a preamble code word is inserted into selected frames only when a master device and a codec are either initially synchronized or need to be re-synchronized. Claims 10-17 recite, *inter alia*, a synchronizing preamble code word used only when a codec device and a serial data bus are either initially synchronized or need to be re-synchronized.

Copperi appears to teach a transmitting terminal, communicating via a PCM link with a remote receiving terminal, processing two simultaneously arriving bit streams consisting of recurrent frames (Abstract). A transmitting terminal is synchronized with a receiving terminal through the use of code words

(Copperi, Fig. 1; col. 5, lines 9-16). A first synchronizing code A at the beginning of every odd-numbered frame and a second synchronizing code B at the beginning of every even-numbered frame are used for synchronization (Copperi, col. 5, lines 9-16; col. 5, lines 39-41).

Copperi's synchronization codes, A and B, are inserted within respective odd and even frames. Copperi's synchronization codes are inserted into every frame. Copperi fails to even mention use of synchronization codes within selected frames, much less teach a preamble code word is inserted into selected frames only when a master device and a codec are either initially synchronized or need to be re-synchronized, as claimed by claims 1-9. Moreover, Copperi fails to teach a synchronizing preamble code word used only when a codec device and a serial data bus are either initially synchronized or need to be re-synchronized, as claimed by claims 10-17.

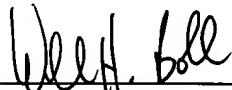
A benefit of using a preamble code word only when a codec is initially synchronized or needs re-synchronized is, e.g., a reduced need for bandwidth. Transmitting a synchronization signal within every frame, as taught by the cited prior art, increases the amount of bandwidth needed for the transmission of frames because of the added bits required for each frame. Adding synchronization data to frames only when needed, as claimed, reduces the bandwidth requirements of a system, possibly allowing the use of less costly components.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 1-17 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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